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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8735
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RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
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STATE FOR NEA/ARP, NEA/PA, NEA/AIA, NEA/PI, INR/NESA, R/MR, I/GNEA,
B/BXN, B/BRN, NEA/PPD, NEA/IPA
LONDON FOR TSOU
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SUBJECT: KUWAIT MEDIA REACTION - SYRIA, IRAQ, AND IRAN

Block Quotes

Monday, April 09, 2007

-- Under the title "The Solution Is in Syria's Hand? We Wish" Talal Al-Arab commented in progressive Arabic daily Al-Qabas (04/09):

"We say it with sorrow that the Syrian regime's actions have harmed our nation just as those of Saddam and Qadafi have. Today we see that Syria has become hostage to Iran and that it is in the process of distancing itself from the Arabs just as Qadafi did by throwing himself in the arms of the Africans and others."

-- Member of the ruling family Fawziya Al-Sabah penned in moderate Arabic daily Al-Rai under the title "Defending Syria Is a Moral Obligation" (04/09):

"Syria's government and people made a great contribution to Kuwait when, during the Iraqi invasion, they stood by us internationally, politically, militarily, and in the media. When the time for our liberation came, the Syrian army was at the forefront.... Writers who now criticize Syria are morally obligated to support it and defend it from the dangers surrounding it today."

-- In a piece titled "Iraq: Four Years of War, Strategic Vacuum" critic of U.S. policies liberal Islamist Dr. Abdulla Al-Shayji inquired in conservative Arabic daily Al-Watan that (04/09):

"How would Iraqi and American soldiers answer if they are asked whether they are in a better situation today than in 2003?"

-- Liberal Dr. Shamlan Al-Issa editorialized in pro-government Arabic daily Al-Seyassah under the title "America, the Gulf States, and Political Islam" (04/09):

"Despite the seriousness situation facing the Gulf region due to the likelihood of the Iranian-American crisis exploding as well as the escalating dependency of the Gulf state's on the American and Western defense umbrella, criticism of American policy in the region persists and escalates."

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